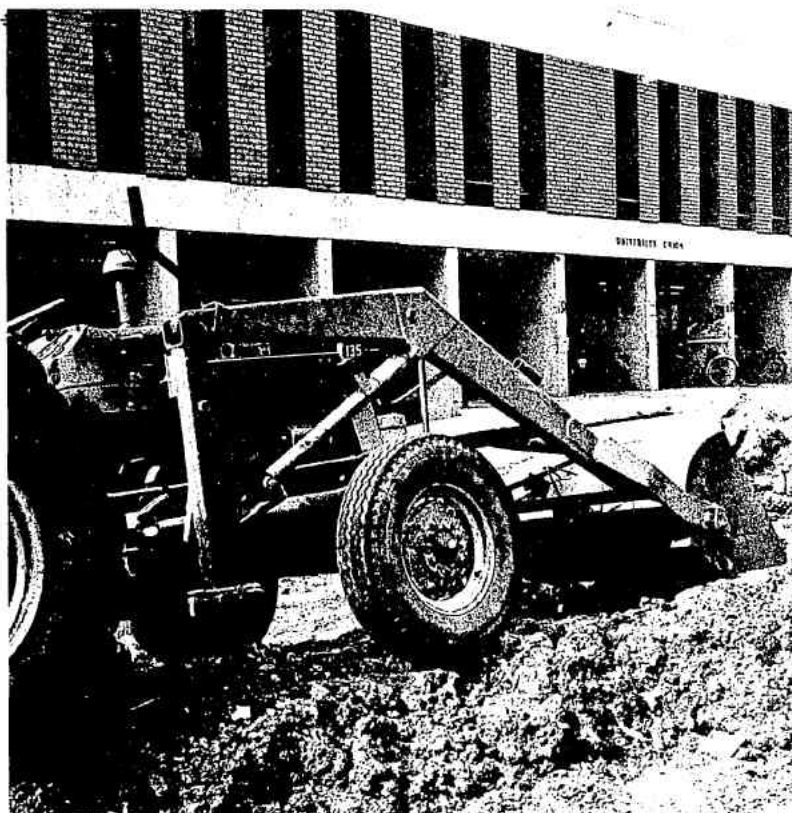
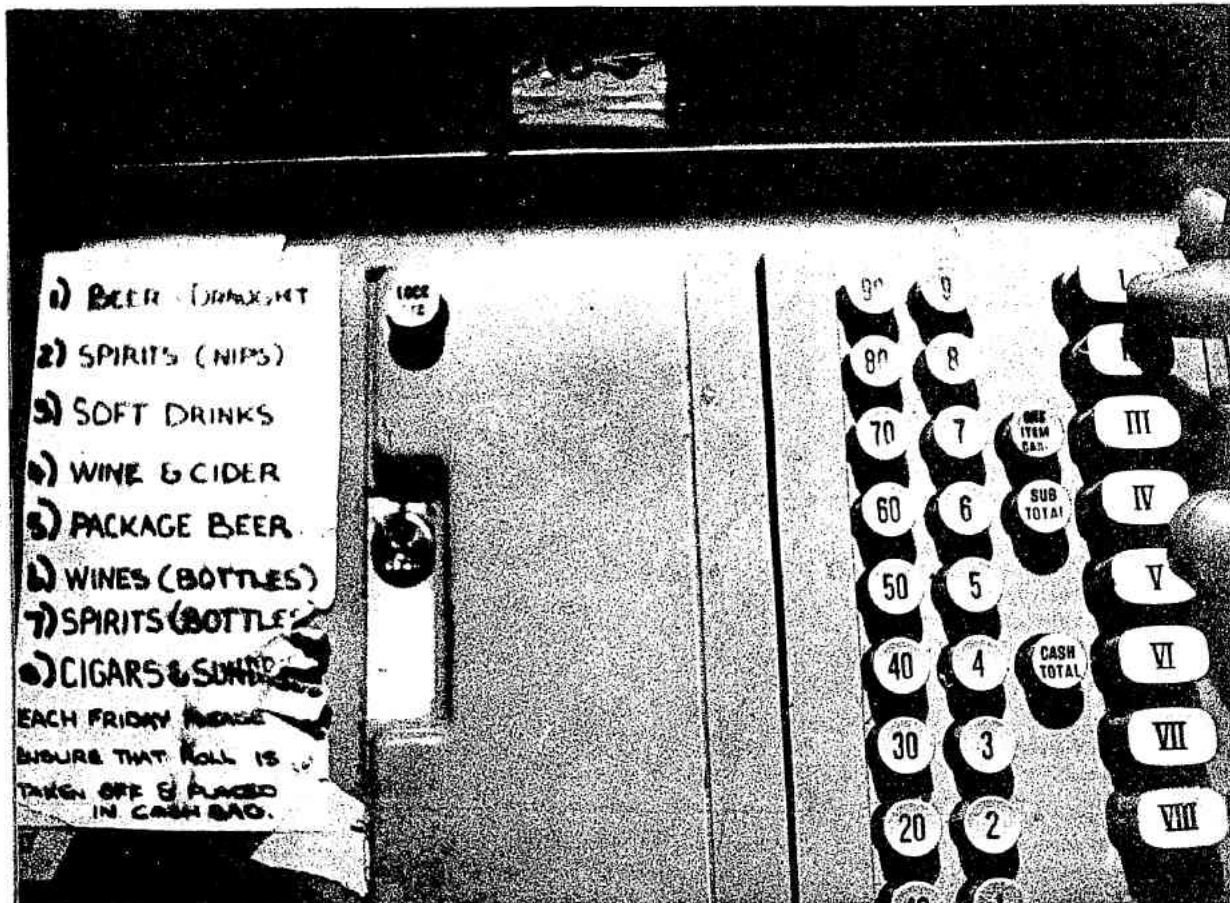


Woron

Newspaper of the ANU Students Association

4 April, 1974.

UNION DIRT



Dirt has been flying around the Union for months. And the 1973 accounts, to be released next week, disclose a huge deficit. Among other things, the Bistro and the Bar have lost money - each time you are affluent enough to eat in the Bistro (academics excepted) it costs the Union! For full details - page 3.

NOTES

and other things

letters

Dear Sir,

I refer to your STOP PRESS article on Union finances in Woroni on 28 March, 1974.

(1) Though a \$3,500 delivery of beer was made outside the University without the Union's knowledge the statement that the Union had paid for that delivery by 29th March, 1974 is totally incorrect and could be interpreted as casting disrepute on Union Staff.

(2) University Council is not the body who has requested an independent assessment of the Union position. Further the statement that a Sydney group of auditors is involved in this independent assessment is incorrect as at 28th March, 1974.

I would appreciate it if you could make these points clear to members in the next issue of Woroni so that the truth cannot be misconstrued.

Chris MacPhillamy,
Chairman Union Board of Management.

Dear Sir,

I really must protest about the tone of your 'Newsbriefs' article concerning the activities of the Orientation Week Directors. Surely the criteria for judging Directors is the success or failure of Orientation Week itself. I have not been told that Orientation Week was a failure and I do not believe that it was. In those circumstances Directors who can keep their work to a minimum and still be successful are to be congratulated, not damned.

I would also like to point out that attendance at Orientation Week activities is not the only work done by Directors. There is much work to be done in basic organization. Unless you know what people have done in this field, how can you criticize them.

In conclusion, I would like to make it clear that I am satisfied with the work done by my Co-Directors. I do not believe that they failed to do a good job of work and I think that you are ill-informed in accusing them of not pulling their weight.

Yours in struggle,
Allan Murray-Jones.
Co-Director, Orientation Week.

"Woroni" is the newspaper of the ANU Students Association.
Published by Andrew McCredie, DSP of the ANUSA.

Responsibility for all election comment in this issue is taken by Andrew McCredie, 54 Officer Crescent, Ainslie, A.C.T. Printed by Cyril and Godfrey at Progress Press, 20 Wollongong St, Fyshwyck. This issue was edited by Martin Attridge and Shane Maloney. Tea lady - Judy Blood. Lesser helpers - David, John, Andrew and Jo-anne.
Photos (page 1,3) by David Austen



notes

While we were researching the article on the Economics faculty (see page 7), we tried to interview Professor Burgess Cameron. Our hapless interviewer was told that the Professor only comes in for the two days a week that he has lectures. Not bad for the head of a department who earns more than \$20,000 per year!

A little birdie from Garran Hall told us that the Powers that Be were contemplating raising fees \$50 in second term and \$50 again in third term. However, it seems that the idea was quietly shelved when it was pointed out that it was illegal to raise fees during the year - ie once the annual fees are announced, they cannot be changed until the following year. People thinking of living in halls next year please take note.

The busload of Nimbin people who were supposed to arrive on Friday night and perform in the Refectory didn't quite make it. It is hoped that they will get their heads together sufficiently to arrive sometime this week.

Despite great changes in the policy of halls of residence during the last few years as regards the privacy of students, a lot of the old attitudes still remain. The last Burton Hall Governing Body meeting was taken up with the discussion of the academic results of the hall. While the motives might have been perfectly sincere, the whole concept of interference of any sort in the private affairs of students has been strongly criticized in recent years. It is hoped that Governing Bodies are beginning to become a little more aware of these criticisms.

Krishna consciousness for fun and profit
The largest incense manufacturer in the United States is making a pretty hefty profit these days - mainly because it doesn't pay any of its employees.

This is happening, the Wall Street Journal reports, because America's largest incense maker is the Spiritual Sky Scented Products Company - owned by the International Society for Krishna Consciousness.

The journal reports that the founder of the religious society, a guru named A.C. Bhaktivedanta Swami Prabhupada, decided that the movement would need some income. So 35 fulltime employees including eight whose sole job it is to dip incense sticks and cones all day, churn out various scented products. After five years in business, the company is now grossing \$6,000,000 a year and is the prime support of the 50 or so Hare Krishna Temples in North America.

The company is large enough to use a computer to keep track of inventories. Whenever the computer is not busy calculating, it continuously prints out the Hare Krishna chant.

BUSH WEEK DIRECTOR 1974
Nominations are hereby called for the above position, to reach the President of the Students Association by 4pm, Monday April 8th. Elections for this position will be held at the next Students Association meeting after the close of nominations.

dope

Drug Squad violence
The Adelaide Drug Squad raided and busted a house in the south of Adelaide. Four people were arrested on charges relating to possession and use of marijuana and possession of LSD. The Advertiser and The News both ran small news items mentioning the bust, adopting

the line that this was just another phase of the Police Force's crackdown on "druggies".

But this was far from being the truth. This is what really went on. The Drug Squad parked their cars down the street away from the house which was raided, for they probably didn't know which house they were looking for. Two people came out of the raided house, and, noticing the DS cars and the DS in them, retreated into the house. The DS moved in on their house. Unfortunately, they'd picked the wrong house: it was occupied only by a few old pensioners who were distraught to find policemen thumping on their door, and by the abuse that they were hurling at the house's occupants. Like a herd of sheep, the DS rushed into the nearest bedroom crying out something like: 'Where's the grass? Come on, we know you've got it!' The poor pensioner in bed was somewhat frightened by these peculiar men and their equally demented behaviour. After some time the DS saw that something was wrong and retreated to the street to try their luck at the house next door, which was, in fact, the house they were looking for.

What follows now is based on what we have been told by two people who were busted in the activity in that house: one a girl, who was two months pregnant, the other her boyfriend.

Once inside the correct house it is alleged the DS isolated the boyfriend from the rest of the people in the house and placed him in a room, presumably so that they could talk to him alone about what was going on in the house and about the other people in the house. But he wasn't just spoken to: during the early parts of the interrogation it is alleged he was beaten about the head with closed fists and later was struck several times with a metal torch. His girlfriend heard him screaming while this was going on and tried to get into the room to see what was going on and to help him. She was physically tackled and prevented from entering the room and witnessing the beating, which continued in the next room. Realising that there was a close relationship between the two people, the DS who were beating the boyfriend threatened him by saying: 'You wouldn't want us to hurt her, would you?'

He told the DS that she was pregnant, but they continued to manhandle her. Their actions can only be seen as vindictive savagery. Realising there was no other way to ensure the safety of his girlfriend, he 'confessed' and was carried away.

Some of the people who have become involved in this matter are attempting to get together enough information and resources to institute a campaign to expose the violence and ruthless brutality of the Drug Squad, and to radically alter the content and structure of the present laws relating to drug use and dealing. These people have been in contact with the Premier and his secretary about the activities of the DS, and more specifically about this particular incident. They have been told that, if there is enough evidence placed before them, there will be a public inquiry into the activities of the Squad.

SYSTEM CRASHES

doing the union shuffle

Ripping off the Union has always happened; houses full of union furniture, kitchens full of refectory crockery and other petty thieving. And security in the old building was never what it should have been. But losses of these magnitudes are trifling in comparison to those which will be revealed to the meeting of the Union Board of Management on Monday night.

The meeting will consider the auditor's report for 1973, a report which will disclose a total deficit of approximately \$61,000 and which will be qualified. Qualification means that the auditors were unable to ascertain whether the figures they presented are a true reflection of operations for the year.

Various rumours have been circulating and general confusion reigns as to what is the true case. At an emergency Board meeting last Monday to discuss a reply to the Canberra Times article (30/3/74) it was obvious that most Board members had no real idea of the situation, how it had arisen, or what they could do about it! Hardly a hopeful sign for a body responsible to students for the good running of the Union and a body with a majority of elected students in it! But more of the Board later.

Although the auditors report is not yet available, and both the Canberra Times and Woroni articles contained some inaccuracies, a picture of mismanagement, ripping off and irresponsibility within some parts of the Union is emerging. (The Canberra Times article was based on confidential figures released by University Information).

Certainly the \$61,000 loss is far greater than in previous years. It is general policy that, overall, the Union should break even. \$25,000 of the deficit is due to administration costs, which are supposed to be covered by union fees. However a slight shortfall in 1973 enrolments, and heavy inflation (especially in wages) help explain this figure. But it is the remaining \$36,000 deficit, on trading (all catering, the shop, bar, bistro and functions) that is the bone of contention. The refectory, as is policy, lost money i.e. meals are subsidised. But this is supposed to be offset by profits from the shop, milk and snack bars. Profits from the Bistro, bar and functions are expected to help pay for the cost of the building. But most of these sections in fact lost money.

Why? It appeared at the end of the third quarter of 1973 that things were running smoothly. But then in the fourth quarter the system crashed. Moneys, invoices and expenses that should have been allocated throughout the year were suddenly discovered.

The Canberra Times based its somewhat wild, and not altogether relevant article on these quarterly change figures, which had been supplied by the Acting Bursar, Mr McDonald, via University Information. It is more than the overall figures for the year that are relevant.

But as well, it was impossible to account for the purchase and use of all stocks. Although the auditors are satisfied that money received was banked, there were insufficient records to determine what stocks had been purchased, and where they had gone.

Although a stock control system was

set up, it was not fully used. Records that show which departments used materials are not satisfactory. Order books are incomplete. As Board chairman Macphillamy told Woroni "We'd be much happier if we could find one order book that we hope is missing." Already the Union has been upturned twice, and no book! As well function sheets, which show staff and materials

used for outside functions, are missing for part of the year.

In summary, some departments (e.g. Bar, bistro) which should have made money lost it, and stock control was inadequate. It seems that somewhere, somehow, massive amounts of stock were knocked off? This problem is compounded by staff relations described as "abysmal", a turnover in the last

year of much of the management, and the shift to the present building. But despite these contingencies it is generally recognised that the Union was ripped off. As a Canberra restaurateur commented "the Bistro had a reputation as being the best place in Canberra to work because of the ripp-offs".

What can be done? Already an independent firm of assessors has been called in by the University administration, with the concurrence of the Board's finance committee.

These assessors will not just cover the same ground as the auditors, but will look at the whole operation of the Union; its systems, responsibility, management and so on. Although the new management have already tightened up on procedures, it is to be hoped that the assessors will both be able to determine who is responsible and guilty for the 1973 fiasco, and implement a system of internal controls and checking that will prevent another crash.

It is interesting to note that the Fraud Squad was called in last September when allegations of a much smaller proportion were made. Perhaps when the independent assessment is complete the Fraud Squad will have sufficient evidence to charge certain people.

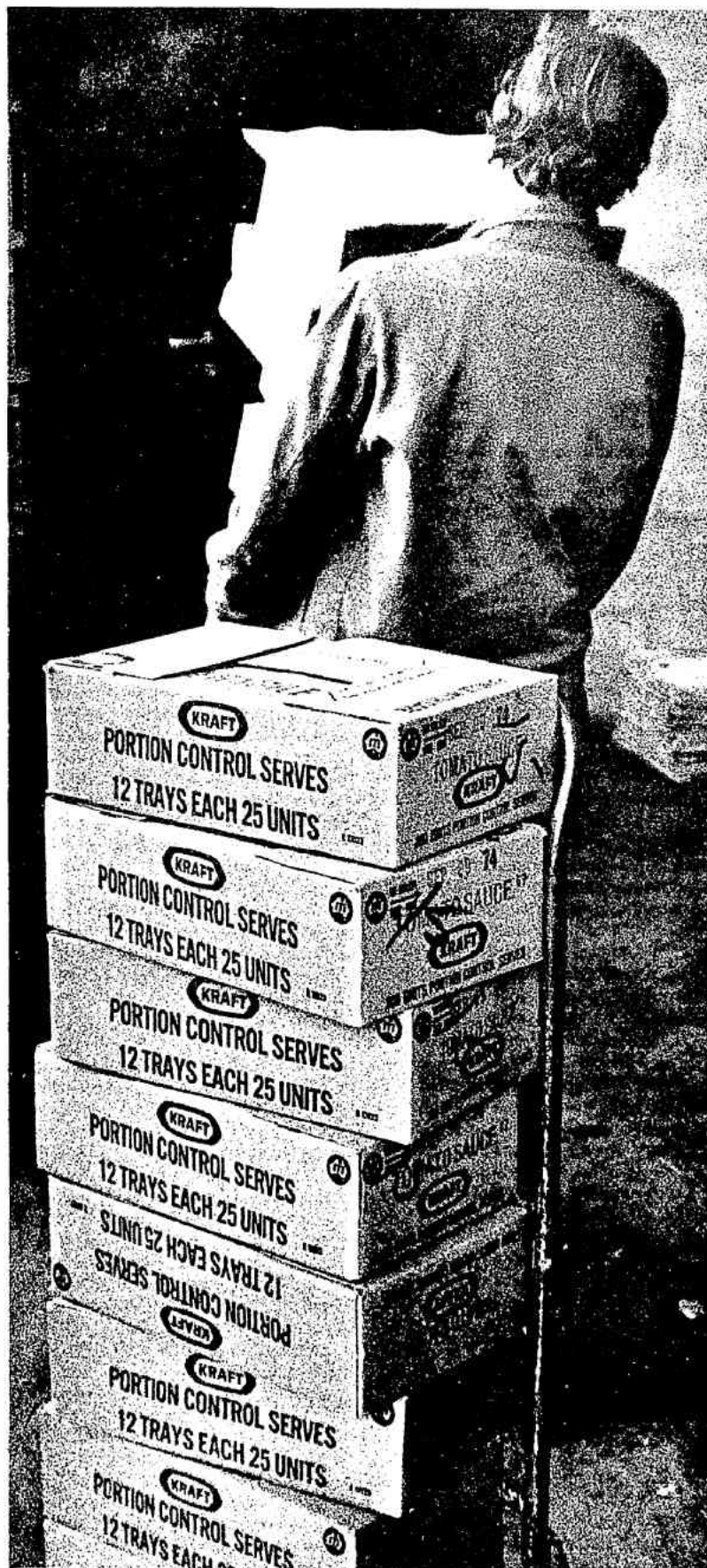
The University, one suspects, will not want another financial scandal so soon after the Turtle Farm affair. But on present indications the University will not be able to whitewash the whole thing, a tactic they have often used so successfully in the past.

Certainly the membership of the Union and both the management of the Union and some members of the Board are anxious that the full story be told. It is to be hoped that chairman Macphillamy will call a general meeting soon after the audited accounts are ready, so that the membership of the Union will be fully informed on the events of 1973.

For the Board is elected by students to represent them, and the Board's primary responsibility is to its members.

Perhaps the Board should also consider its position when the independent assessment is made. Board members are unhappy at the lack of information they received; some knew nothing of the crash until they read it last week in Woroni and The Times. Should the Board meet more often? What is its function? Should it take a more direct role in overseeing union activities and operations? Would, for example, a full-time chairman (under similar conditions as the Students' Association presidency) be better able to function? Should the Chairman of the Board's Finance Committee have accounting background? These questions must be discussed by both the Board and the people they represent.

What is important now is that the reasons for the crash are discovered, that appropriate action be taken, and to ensure that measures now being implemented will prevent a reoccurrence. Above all, members must be fully informed on what is happening. If they are not, the Board ceases to be a representative body, and the Union ceases to work in the best interest of its members.



FACT AND FANCY

education mass meeting

"Fighting a continual battle for daily bread, but winning through because of devotion to the cause of learning."

Behind the myth university students find they have never had it so good. The number of students living in halls, the cars cluttering up carparks, the amenities which the union is able to provide (and the use made of them), and the lack of activity round the student employment office (considering the total number of students) deny the myth. The vast majority of people cannot afford such aspects of affluence with so little effort, and so much leisure time for the pursuit of learning (or whatever).

"The doors of the university are open to all with sufficient intellectual merit."

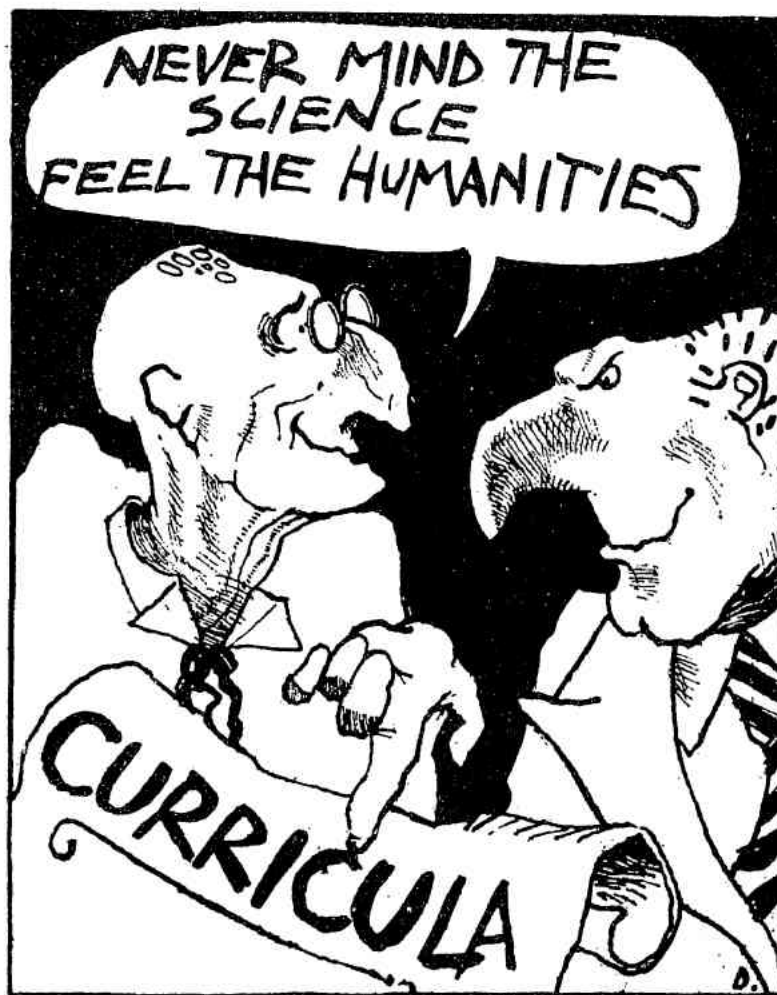
This myth grows stronger with the system of tertiary grants. Even tertiary grants, however, are dependent on successful completion of twelve (or more) years of preliminary schooling. This effectively discriminates against the student from an economically under-privileged background. The poor child characteristically receives lower quality teaching in overcrowded, under-equipped and understaffed government schools, which are no comparison with the general quality of teaching available at expensive private schools. No accident, then, that the majority of scholarship winners under the old Commonwealth Scholarship scheme, which based awards on academic achievement, came from economically privileged backgrounds. Nor does discrimination against the underprivileged child end at school. At home his study conditions are inferior, and the possibility of receiving extra coaching non-existent. The privileged child is usually pressured towards university by his parents, but the underprivileged experiences a pressure to leave school, which necessarily stems from the inability of his parents to finance further education, and the social disadvantages which the economically deprived student faces.

Even though the new tertiary allowances are not based on academic results, they pose no real threat to the system of selection of children of the rich for university education, for the major part of the old system remains in tact. Even if he attains university entrance, the poor student is forced to work to support himself adequately, and less time is available for study. Lecturers setting work do not make allowances for the student who must spend much of his time working.

Behind all the myths, the facts are obvious. Students who gain university entrance are richer than those who do not, and students who reach graduation are richer than those who do not.

Of course, being economically advantaged is not our fault, and only a fool throws away his opportunities. But to what use do we put our advantages?

The prime motivation to university is economic gain. It is not surprising to find that those faculties offering degrees of greatest economic value attract (or admit) those from the most economically advantaged backgrounds — the largely mythical poor student is traditionally an Arts student. Perhaps the prime example of an economically valuable degree is that of Law. Practice of Law is now receiving much criticism as it is realized



that the Law has become an edifice on the backs of the people; an unnecessarily complicated and often ambiguous mass of jargon which legal people have created to guarantee their continued existence. It is almost an adage that the Law is unimportant in court—what is important is the skill (cost) of the lawyer. Degrees such as Law maintain the privileged in a privileged position from generation to generation. Children of the rich are educated, largely at the expense of the poor (who also pay taxes for universities) and later continue their advantaged position at the expense of those who are prevented, by the legal edifice, from knowing what is right and what is wrong.

What of other disciplines? Engineers and scientists are important tools of industry. They feed the war industry with new weapons, they provide the means by which we are able to extract and use up our natural resources as fast as possible, they cut up forests so that industry can expand, treating the environment as if it were their own, and they provide us with increasingly mechanised and standardized lives. For this, done at the expense of everyone, they are rewarded with continuation in the economically advantaged position they enjoyed as children.

Universities produce economists, trained to try and solve the problems of the capitalist system which other graduates are fostering. When economists begin their training, their attention is quickly diverted from possible study of alternate systems.

And universities produce Arts graduates, most of whom are destined to

enter into the service of the education system, to maintain the process of selection which selected them. Others swell the ranks of the government bureaucracy, maintained in an economically advantaged position for no other reason than that the government saw that it was necessary to support them in order to maintain the system.

The great majority of university graduates enter into the service of the system which produced them. The university as an institution serves to further the interests of the rich, and guarantee their continued existence over generations.

What do you fancy you are doing here?

On April 18, interested student groups are organising a mass meeting to protest for education at ANU. To a large extent, the organisation of this meeting has come about in response to the worsening situation for students at this University. Lectures this year—particularly in first year units—are more overcrowded than ever. In terms of course content, students have little or no control over what or how they are taught. And of course above all, the antiquated and repressive examination system continues.

Although it does not affect all students, there is a problem in regard to overcrowded lectures. Two very important first year units are overcrowded to such an extent that students have to sit in the aisles. At a small university like ANU there is no excuse whatsoever for this callous disregard of student interests. The problem could be alleviated by these lectures being repeated—so far this has met with a blank refusal from faculty.

The real tragedy about this situation however is that overcrowded units produce an enormous failure rate at the end of year exam massacre.

ANU must be one of the most conservative universities with regard to course content. The contents of most units are determined almost entirely by heads of departments with student participation reduced to the minimum level. As a result of this lack of democratic control, courses are in many cases, blatant apologies for the existing system of political and social relations within Australia. Other universities and CAEs are miles ahead. Flinders University has interdisciplinary courses on racism and women's studies. Tasmania CAE has a school of Environmental Design which allows students to undertake specific ecology projects. These are only examples. Narrowness and conservatism pervade the work of ANU. It pervades the research schools, the role of sciences in Australian society and the humanities. A step towards the solution this problem would be student control over course content. This will be one of the main demands put forward on April 18.

As for the examination system, demands have been made time & time again for its elimination and for students to choose their own form of assessment. These demands—apart from token concessions by the Administration—have been ignored. Exams as we know them at ANU are destructive of creativity. Instead of following his or her own line of interests the student is forced to study only those things which are examinable, in order to succeed within the system. The spirit of competition which arises from the nature of the exam system, in which people are herded into halls where fellow students become a threat to individual success, alienates students from the products of their labour as well as from their peers. This results in a dehumanised learning environment. One of the main priorities of the April 18 meeting will be the call for student choice of their own assessment.

A study recently carried out by the ANUSA Education Committee in the Faculty of Arts has discovered that there has been very little change in assessment procedures—exams remain paramount. As the Chairman, Julius Roe points out:

"In general, there is virtually no change in the nature of non-examination assessment between 1973 & 1974. If anything, there is an increase in workload, due partly to more semesterisation without any of the assessment and workload changes recommended by students and to an extent by this faculty."

That this situation—in lectures, in course content and in assessment—persists, after so many motions, recommendations and demands in so many committees, boards and other bodies, is an eloquent testimonial to the basic ineffectiveness of that type of action when faced with a rigid Administration. The organisers of the April 18 meeting are hoping that a large attendance will show the University that students no longer merely are content with Committees and idle talk. Rather, the time has come, they believe, for students to show their dissatisfaction in a mass way.

SENATE FOLLIES

old clown changes the picture

Well folks, the almost annual trooping to the polls is now on. (Don't worry overly about it all you lovely ACT people out there, it doesn't concern you this time it's the Senate. Maybe next time, or possibly the one after).

According to the way you look at it, the State electors are going to be asked to demolish the reactionary bastards who are obstructing this fine (unfortunately un-)Socialist Government from achieving its great legislative program, a mandate for which you, or at least the proletariat amongst you, gave them come December 1972. Alternatively, here is your clear chance to tell those Socialist monsters that it was only an aberration back in '72, that you have realised the error of your ways, and that you are utilising this one chance to give them a clear message that you don't approve, and that you endorse the strong and principled stand taken by Opposition in blocking the most wicked pieces of legislation.

Of course it doesn't have very much to do with either, because neither party even pretends that it can win any sort of mandate, or that even if it did in this particular election that it would do anything about the present state in the Senate. The most the Government hopes for is half of the seats, and they are already giving the impression that they think they will have made a fair showing if they get one or two less. Much the same for the anti-Government forces, who at least in the face they will be presenting to the electors are the most disorganised lot ever. I won't go into the fine points of the country party's different names and alliances in each of the different states. The Liberals will have a few votes hived off by the rightwing Hannan's (resignation and) candidacy as the trueblue all-pure (Sir Robert Menzies) liberal party. But in SA they are also divided, and this will likely lose them a majority of that States' seats.

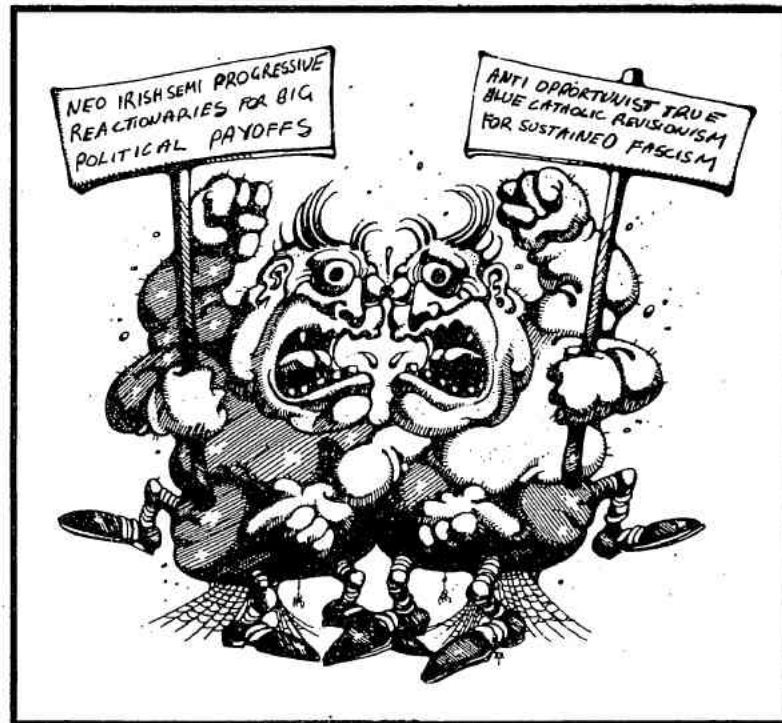
The point is that in the event that it is Government 15, anti Government 15, the Government will still be blocked in the Senate because it will have only 29 of the 60 votes. Even the vote of the independent Negus (who believes the Government, whoever it is, ought to be allowed to get on with it as long as it makes sympathetic noises about death

duties) makes only 30.

Basically its a sort of masturbatory exercise but the ALP has the best grip at the moment for two reasons: (a) it has only got 12 Senators going for re-election while the Opposition has 14 LCP and three DLP (total 17). The worst it can hope for is that the present position is maintained, but in practice it can hope for better. AND THE NEXT TIME (that is the Senate election after) it is in a much better position to seek and get an actual majority. (b) Despite the DLP having improved its position by joining with the Country Party in QLD and WA, it faces almost certain loss for each of the three members facing election. The Country Party will benefit from the merger, by making the election of their number one men a cert., and the Libs will benefit because the leftovers will probably go to them in three States. But the DLP will effectively go from five to two, which will be very pleasing medicine indeed for the ALP.

The issues in the Senate campaign will be (opposition) inflation, socialism, the creeping centralism, probably various administrative scandals especially in Aboriginal Affairs, and a general trade on sectarianism (State aid) and Health which it thinks it has got support on. (On the last question, I don't believe it has, but the Government is fucked on its own, not because it's not a good one (it is except it doesn't go halfway enough) but because the campaign of lying and distortion coming from the doctors and funded by the Health Funds monopolies has probably worked. Don't think the ALP won't get some mileage here though, there are some little scandals that a bit of encouraged scratching of journalists will bring forward to discredit the LCP relationship with the medicos.)

Government issues will be Housing (they will announce all sorts of benefits) defence (there will be a whopping injection just before — the general give us a mandate sort of bullshit), AND (negative wise) the cry of "Where's the money coming from" at the Libs. This will be lovely to hear from the other side for a change but has a basis of truth about it. Liberal policies announced by Snedden already would amount to at least \$1,000m. He promises to cut taxes \$600m, and to cut back the public



service thereby saving about \$40m. This total of about \$1550m, it will have to find, and the Government will be asking which of its areas will be cut back to pay the bill. Where it suspects it will be is urban development, and this the ALP consider to have been a part of their electoral success in 1972.

The Country Party's naked announced links with the mining industry. Fair such of the saucebottle, cobber, the cunts are so close with the foreign mining boys it'd make you puke. They will make much of Mr Anthony's espousal of an oil price rise, and probably claim it will support a 100% rise. They might have something here too. And frankly the CP's mining policy reads like Conzinc Riotinto's annual report. The buggers are a little close to the Secondary industry boys too (it has always amazed observers that the CP is much closer to them policywise than the Libs; and of course secondary industry policy (like high tariff walls), is not necessarily the same as farmer's policy (they happen to prefer no tariffs.)

So much for the election itself, as detailed below I think 15 each for the ALP and the Opposition. The other thing the masses have to chew over is the four referendums. All will be defeated, which is a pity in all sorts of ways, but which is at least as much a tribute to Whitlam's dishonesty as the Oppositions chicanery. You won't get the pamphlet issued by the Commonwealth electoral office to all electors, but the massive lying by each side has got to be read to be believed. The principles (with reservations on the question of whether each electorate should have the same population, or the same number of voters) are good. But no-one ever wins a referendum if even a minor party is opposed, and these will go to the scrap heap in fine style. Which will be the way allow Mr Joe Bjelke-petersen to justify his gerrymander on the fact that the electors endorsed it.

In NSW

The seat will be contested between ALP, Aust Party, and DLP, with likely votes (16 2/3 required) ALP 13% at least, Aust Party 5% at least, DLP 4% at least. others will include Communists (probably 2%) and LCP preferences probably 8%. ALP to take the seat with Aust. Party as dark horse.

In Victoria

The seat will be contested between LCP, DLP, and Aust. Party. With Australia Party and ALP spillovers going to the LCP, the LCP will take the seat unless Little (DLP) can do the impossible again and win a 16 2/3 vote in his own right. The Candidacy of renegade right wing Liberal Hannan will make no difference. LCP to win it.

In Queensland

The seat will be contested between the National Party No. 2 (Byrne who used to be DLP), the Liberal Party No. 2 ALP and Australia Party preferences will go to the Liberal Party, making them easy favourites.

In South Australia two seats still open Contestants for the seat will be LCP renegade Steele Hall, (Liberal Movement), ALP, Number 3, LCL. Likely position after two ALP and one LCP candidate elected, ALP 13%, LCL 11%, LM 13%, CP 5%, DLP 3%, Aust Party 2%. Aust. Party preferences, odd votes and leakages should gain the fourth seat for the ALP. In a neck and neck tussle between the Liberal Movement (rightwing) and the Liberal Country League (extreme right wing) the LCL must be favoured. Predictions, 1 ALP, 1 LCL.

In Western Australia

The seat will be contested between the Liberal Party and the National Party. With ALP and Aust. Party preferences Liberals to win.

Present position

	NSW	VIC	QLD	SA	WA	TAS	TOTAL
ALP	6	3	4	5	4	4	26
LibCP	3	5	4	5	5	4	26
DLP	1	2	2				5
other					1	2	3

Retiring senators

ALP	3	1	2	2	2	2	12
LibCP	1	3	2	3	3	2	14
DLP	1	1	1				3
Other						1	1

Certainties

That the ALP will win at least two seats in each state = 12

That the LCP will win two seats in NSW, Vic, Tas, and at least one in Qld, WA & SA = 9

That the National Party will win at least one in Qld, and one in WA = 2 = 11 in all for the anti-Labour forces.

Which leaves a vacancy in each State to worry about, except of SA, where there are 2)

continued page 6

RADIO ANU

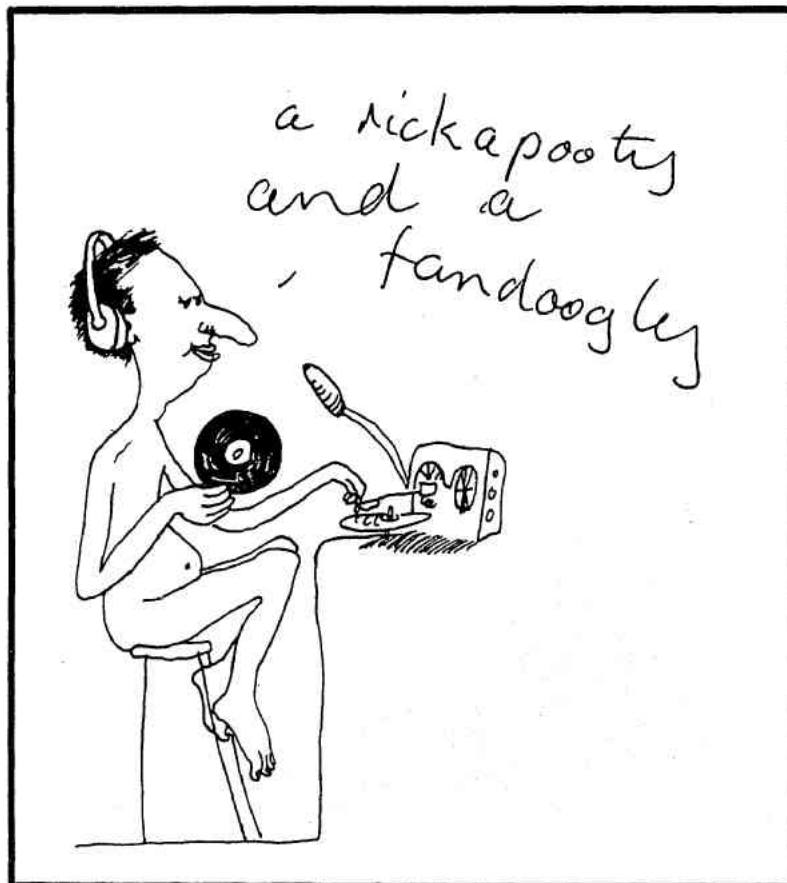
community radio

As with any action it is good to know where you are going and what you are trying to do. Through the power of the radio media ANU's campus radio station, Radio ANU, seeks to serve its members the campus, and the spirit of research upon which ANU is founded.

Unlike commercial stations Radio ANU is not ultimately based on money-making advertising. Therefore the station may define itself in terms of its community. Theoretically Radio ANU can reflect the cultural beliefs of a broad cross-section of Australian intellectual life. This theory is the energy behind the "time-slot" organization of the station's programming. The music of most ANU sub-cultures is represented in the program schedule. So "Rock Strata" covers not only Crosby, Stills and Nash, The Rolling Stones, and Pink Floyd, but reflects and re-affirms the mores of the sub-culture which finds this music more than entertainment. So, too, with "Classics", or "Jazz" or "Folk".

Each of these departments of music, which use air time roughly in proportion to survey results of their popularity, not only entertain, but culturally reaffirm each of the sub-cultures they represent. By their music, their news, and their view on world news each sub-culture can raise an awareness of community. The listener can say, "Hey, at least a few others think this way, too." Or the listener can find himself conscious of specific reasons why he does not agree with that world-view. Either way there is energy a-stirring.

This is half of the incredible two-way power of the radio media. With interesting shows as the programming criteria the students who work in Radio ANU are provided with a structure, an artistic medium, in which to express and articulate both their absolutely personal ideas and the basic tenets of their sub-culture. To do a show over the air is an amazing turn-on for the announcer—a real source



of energy. The students who listen to Radio ANU have the energizing re-affirmation of a media which shares basic mores with them while containing enough personal statement to foster a healthy argument.

Ultimately this type of radio station can provide a means for positive criticism and positive action within ANU.

Radio, to reflect its community honestly, and hence to possess the power to touch the community's consciousness,

must be an organic part, a "regular member", of that community. At ANU the students and faculties talents and interests are varied, so the radio station must be open to the different wavelengths of their energy. There are four avenues—announcers, "productioners" (Carrollian portmanteau of producer/engineer), newsmen, and technicians. For anyone cultural or personal interest these are the four organizational paths to its expression. These define the guts of Radio ANU.

Radio ANU must reach out on a daily organizational level to the other campus community structures to exchange life-giving energy. For, to fulfill its capacity as a didactic mirror of the community, Radio ANU must run not only on the energy of individuals but groups of people.

Organizationally the station provides air time for radio plays, a Canberra College of Music show, and provides advertising for university clubs and societies, the student Union, and is a sound lab. for theatre productions and the provider of the odd tape machine for a college revue.

Radio ANU News seeks to serve the community with general news. Here, in the editorial bias of ANU News, is the consensus of the mores of ANU students. The verisimilitude of that editorial bias to the student consensus can well be the indicator of Radio ANU's ability to reflect and direct community consciousness.

Below and behind this structure is the human tripod of mutual respect, mutual help and mutual humour upon which this *all* relies. People. The sources and receptacles of the energy and the creators of this media with which they can please, inform and re-energize themselves are people.

This cycle of human energies, this ecology of men and women's minds, teaches all who take part in it the structure of a mass media—radio. Media helps shape our conscience. To understand how the particulars of a media such as radio work and to be given the contrast of this type of student radio with commercial or government radio *educates* both the active and the passive participant. This education, Radio ANU does by increasing the students' conscious knowledge of the power and potential uses of radio.

What do you think?
Timothy Cheek,
Programme Manager.

from page 5

In Tasmania

The seat will be contested between ALP and the conservationist United Tasmanian Group, who will receive Liberal and Aust. Party preferences. However ALP must be strongly favoured to win.

The result then: ALP Three
Liberals Three

With the new Senate
ALP 29
LCP and National Party 29
Independants 2, DLP 2

If this result is presumed, all three DLP Senators up for reelection either as DLP or National party candidates will fall by the wayside.

Postscript

The situation is now chagged by Gair's resignation. Now Labor will win three of six seats in Queensland, giving them 16 now, and 30 in the Senate altog-

ether.

The news that Senator Vince "Toad" Gair has resigned his Senate seat to take up ambassadorship to Ireland ranks as one of the three most significant events in bourgeois political history in the last ten years, ranking with the Gorton resignation and the election of the Labor government.

It is now ten years since any government has had effective control of the Senate, and until Whitlam's masterstroke of political double-dealing, it looked as though it would be three years before the Labor government gained control, as long as the ALP remained popular. But now the ALP will win three of the six Queensland seats, giving them 16 of the 31 seats contested this year, which with their other 14 would give them exactly half.

With the support of the independent Negus, they will be able to pass whatever legislation they want, including, let it be said, an electoral redistribution immed-

ately after these Senate elections, which could pave the way for a House election on far more favourable terms than at present soon afterwards.

Note on this: legislation they could pass does not include the Health Scheme. The Government agrees that this is fucked and will not try again.

The news was a bombshell for both the DLP and the Liberals, both of whom have reacted extremely bitterly. Jack Little (DLP Victoria, who is:doomed to oblivion after a month and a bit) said: "I'm not so old or so soft in the head to accept a bribe after 20 years of not doing so". Not quite accurate, Jack - the DLP has been rightly described as a whore that would sell it's favours to anyone. But the sentiment is right.

It would be technically anathema for any DLP senator to pave the way for an ALP victory. After all, what the DLP tried to do for 20 years was to keep them out. But Toad Gair has long been a rat. He

ratted on the ALP while he was Queensland Premier, and his final rat on the Liberals, who he has openly despised almost as much as the ALP for years, will merely culminate a long career of rattery.

Nobody guessed it, or even gave it a thought. But people did know the Toad was interested in retiring. The Libs thought that he would have the decency, as far as they were concerned, to defer his resignation until July 1, which would have given them the vacancy. Not so, Toad - he always thought of Number 1 first, and no doubt the diplomatic post wasn't open till then.

Well done, Toad! Well done, Gough! Gough, by the way, was not such a turncoat as to actually praise the man after announcing the appointment. He merely quoted conciliatory words used by Snedden after Gair had described Snedden as the Biggest Bloody Lightweight he had ever seen.

Jack Growford.

ECONOMICS

students say boo

This article is the first in a series about various departments around the ANU — their structure, their attitudes and their failings. This week we begin with the most obvious — Economics.

Students who wish to supply stories to Woroni will be welcomed with open arms — but be constructive!

Economic students have been a long time reaching the summer of their winter of discontent. Perhaps it's time we asked the faculty a few questions.

Why do we:

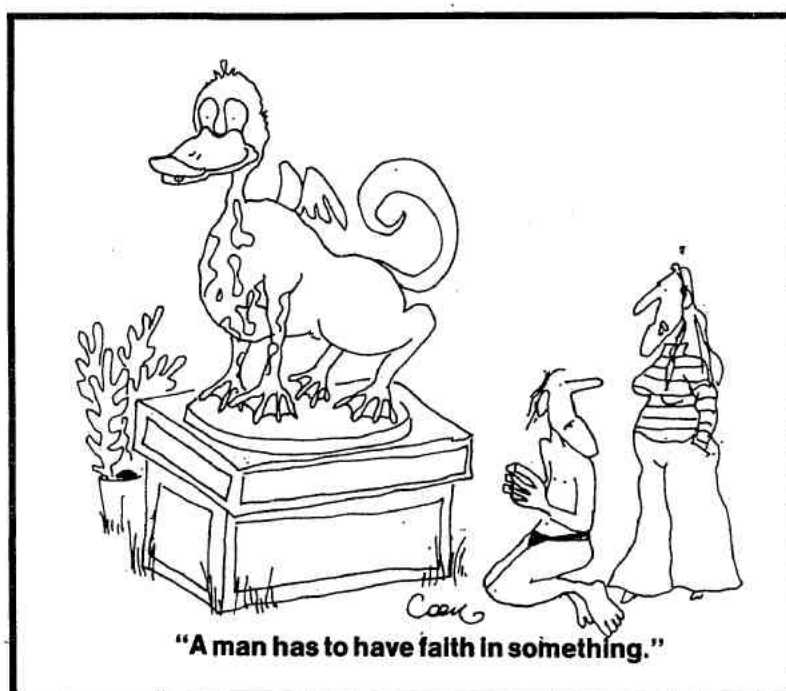
- i) have the highest wastage rate of any qualitative subject on campus (i.e. 50% in Econs I)
- ii) have the largest first, second and third year classes on campus in Ecos I, II & III.
- iii) have very restrictive course content, so that ½ of the class is bored shitless by the trivial, contorted maths, ½ is totally confused by the maths, and everyone is astounded by the complete lack of social awareness shown by the faculty.

It is obvious that these factors i) high wastage ii) large class size iii) limited course content are related.

It is obvious that a restrictive course content will not stimulate interest in the subject and will lead to a high wastage rate. Large class sizes are not as effective in involving students in their subject as small class sizes. In economics I Professor Cameron confusing stimulated responses with education has introduced a set of 'programmed study notes'. But really given the system he must work under (i.e. a class of 600) how can the Professor do otherwise.

The size of the class makes personal interaction impossible. Course content must be rigid if you answer a programmed study guide.

Our exams are symptomatic of the faculty's disinterest in education. In Ecos I two exams account for the entire assessed mark. The faculty uses Ecos I not so much as to enable students to develop their economic interests as



far and widely as possible, but rather as a hurdle designed to rid the department of those that they consider fools. They are not interested in *importing knowledge but only in finding that 50% of fools they know they have*. The E.W.E. ('ere we eliminate) exam is a perfect example of this obsession with their own intellectual beauty and the avoidance of their intellectual duty — to provide a suitable environment for students to explore their interests in Economics.

It has been suggested that the Ecos I wastage rate is due to quotas. This is not entirely true, the faculty does not say we will only pass 200 Ecos I students (though of course they only ever do). What they do however, is create a situation under which it is unlikely that more than 50% would ever pass. Some of the more obvious Draconian methods used are the irrelevant and outdated Elementary Quantitative Economics course practically designed to confuse

and intricate exam questions upon several of which each year most of the students (and some of the markers) cannot understand what the question is asking. If questions whose meanings and context are not obvious are essential to economics why ask such questions in the panic situation of an exam?

Economics students are sick of this. We are going to say Boo! We demand:
1) an end to forced assessment. we want to choose our assessment from exams essays, seminars, tutorials, assignments or any other suitable method students and teachers may agree to. Why should exams be the main method of assessment in Economics. No one can show what he has learnt in a year in 3 hours. No one is encouraged to become involved in their subject if they expected to be able to reproduce thirty minutes scribbling on any of the topics in the course. No one believes exams encourage involvement or interest in a subject. Exams are

anti-educational, if they are the major method of assessment. No crummy lecturer can force his lousy prejudices about assessment on us!

2) an end to lecture class sizes above 200 in 1st year, 100 in second year, and fifty in 3rd. This serves two purposes. Firstly it will force a greater number of options in the economic major. It is ludicrous to believe that all that is taught in the economic major is essential. Much of it is irrelevant or trivial e.g. the EQE, or the demand/supply courses, and indifference theory. Many interesting and some would consider vital ideas in economics are avoided e.g. value theory, social economics and underdeveloped countries. Normative economics (i.e. that which requires value judgements) is ignored by the faculty. How can you talk about maximising a society's welfare if you ignore the social consequences of your actions. Economics here at ANU considers resources to be allocated and used perfectly if they are distributed such that if any change from this allocation that makes someone better off also makes someone else worse off. Obviously this avoids the vast problems of modern economics: the gap between the poor and the rich, contradictions between private and public well-being. Courses can and must be set up to enable students to follow their interests in these areas. This can be done by breaking up the monolithic Economics major.

Secondly the reduction in class size means a less impersonal more involved and interested class of students. Interested students learn more and pass.

3) a new economics major with a choice of units, enabling students to choose courses in line with their interests. We have a faculty who only too readily fall into line with liberal, capitalist economics — let us see a bit of this liberation in our course structure. Let us see whether free student choice of course would support the antiquated ideas of the economics faculty or whether they would choose courses more relevant to present social and economic problems.

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the last lost tribe

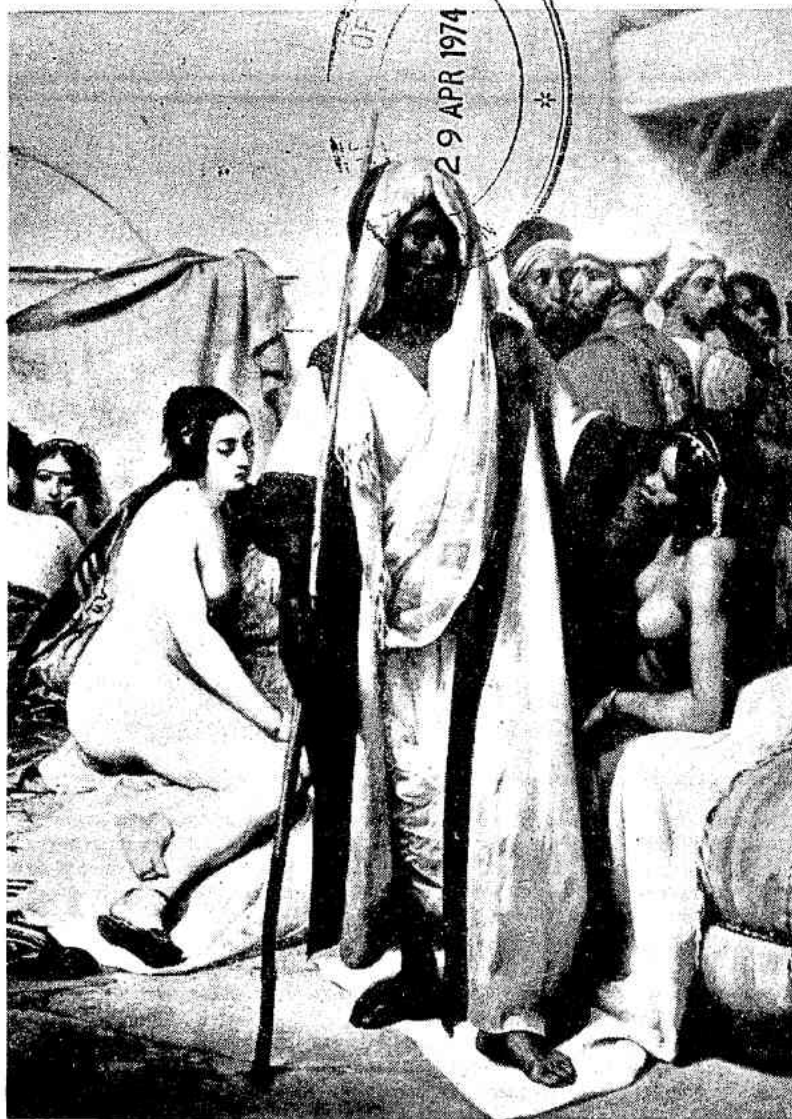
In the hills of Southern India where those the west would consider outrightly weird are accepted with barely a second glance, there exists a species of people that continue to amaze even the most broadminded and philosophical of Indians.

The female of the species is usually seen in a floral print dress, seamed stockings and chunky-heeled white leather shoes; she wears either a nylon scarf or an old tattered hat over her grey hair and generally assists herself along with a heavy wooden stick. The male usually dresses in a dull double-breasted suit or cuffed trousers and sports coat. Though usually seen in pairs, if seen singly it is more likely that one comes across a female than a male. With themselves these people carry a certain faded dignity, but they do it in such a way that one's initial pity gradually changes to a respectful one.

These unique characters are the last remnants of a once glorious age. They are the British who stayed behind and continued to live in the old hill station towns of the beautiful Nilgiri mountains of southern India.

The Nilgiris are a freak outcrop of folded mountains rising out of the flat and dusty plains that comprise most of India's south. Situated 60 miles south of the ancient city of Mysore, where the power of the Maharajas clashed fiercely with the British throughout the 19th century, the hill stations were established as retreats where the elite of British society went to relax and recuperate away from the sticky heat of Indian summers. The high rolling hills and the pleasantly cool evenings attracted the British, as if to the hills of Scotland or Wales to be discovered all over again. The first British visitor, Mr John Sullivan, a taxation collector arrived in 1819 and escaped the plains by building a bungalow at a place called Thimbatty. From this humble beginning developed a phenomena without parallel anywhere in the world. A region that was England almost in its entirety — a piece of India that remained a world completely apart from India — a unique thriving cultural oddity that remained as such for over 120 years.

After the initial incursion other people arrived to establish coffee and tea and eucalyptus plantations and still more to provide services for the growing permanent and seasonal communities. The three towns that grew in the hills, Ootacamund, Loonar and Kotagiri became vital parts of the Empire. During the years when the glory that was England was at its peak they become the social life and blood of the British in the Asian tropics. There developed the phenomena known only as "The Season" during which the cold blooded foreigners retreated to the cool of the hills — and in the cool of the hills lived in this realm of their own. They cultivated "society" and social activities to the finest sharpest



edge, and thrived in a blue-blooded glory that their relatives in the motherland were watching slowly fade away.

For Ootacamund (Ooty) the "queen of the hill stations" had "the Hunt Club" with the finest pack of hounds imaginable. Their prey was not limited to rabbit, fox or occasionally deer as at home. They had the animals of the Indian jungle to pursue and outwit. Tigers, Panthers, wild Boar, Hyena, Bison and Deer were all to be hunted. Gymkhana Clubs and Race Clubs were established, and for the British officers and administrators performing their duties to the Empire, and the planters and businessmen performing their duties to themselves, the Nilgins became a dreamworld apart from India.

Within the hills a series of public schools were established in the finest tradition, "Breeks school" for boys at Ooty and "St Aidas" for girls at Coonar. They housed the children of missionaries and the English gentry from all parts of India — Hotels, the Savoy, Ritz, Hampton, Palace, and woodlands were built. Out of beautiful red-brick post offices, libraries, and exclusive clubs grew up. Out of the countryside a golf course was carved (diplomatically it was built around a tribal village). Corner stores, confectionary shops, village halls, churches, YMCA's all developed as part of this unique world — Private houses were built with names like "Repose", "Hartherly Cottage" and "The Anchorage" and as frail old Miss Lawrence told me:

"Everyone had servants — lots of

servants — it was a life you couldn't imagine looking at this place now — All my old friends have either gone or passed on — its all Indians now you see; and they have ruined it" — But as another old lady reminded Miss Lawrence — "It was our own fault — you know we wouldn't even let them into our clubs — not even the rich ones".

It was the independence movement started by Gandhi that first disturbed this short-sighted glory. Fear began to grow as the struggle grew stronger and more violent — until when independence was achieved the hill stations had lost over 50% of their population. Plantation owners and businessmen sold out; some just left without bothering to sell out. For those that dared to stay on, the first few years of independence were watched with much fear and trepidation.

Much that was left behind was taken control of by the Indian government and used for official purposes: One of the best houses in Ooty became the residence of the police superintendent and other officers and government departments now reside in similar style. Many of the other prime sites fell into private hands; many being bought up by what is sometimes called the "Indian Mafia" — the wealthy Indian businessmen who have made their money from hoarding and black-market activities.

Now, though the old forms of racism and class discrimination have disappeared, they have made way for a corruption and discrimination that is distinctly Indian in character. The institutions established

by the British to remain aloof from the realities of India have passed to wealthy Indians. Breeks school remains run by the Indian government as an exclusive college — the private clubs are now Exclusive Indian Clubs; even the Ritz hotel has now passed into Indian hands.

For the sad, sad remnants of the Empire "The Season" bring back a tinge of the old glory — Dog Shows, flower shows, race meetings, and re-unions with similarly aging friends — the revival of the Hunt Club and organised bridge tournaments make this part of the year a peak of activity — But really for these last remnants it isn't the same. What was once a complete sub-culture is now just a holiday resort. What was once a little piece of Britain isolated in the hills is now virtually just another series of Indian villages. The remaining British appear as displaced persons in a world they barely know.

They are indeed a strange bunch, those that remain. Some live in incredible poverty and simply can't afford to leave — like the old lady in my hotel, who lives on a campbed in a corridor for 1 rupee (8 cents a night). Others have simply failed to adjust and continue to dream of the old days — "When Mummy, Daddy, the Colonel and I were all together".

For most it is a very lonely life; church activities hold a few of the faithful together, and the further propagation of the mission amongst the Hindus gives some an aim — But even the churches are now decaying. In Coomar the Union Church only has a pastor during the peak holiday months of April and May; according to the caretaker "The Delhi Government would not allow one to stay here year round because there are so few English here" — The local church of England Church, All Saints, still stands proudly on top of Coomar Hill — and is still attended by an English clergyman appropriately called Reverend White, but its congregation is small and predominately Indian — But many of the English are entrenched here and have no wish to leave — One lady who came from Somerset fifty years ago said "Where can I go...? these people, the Indian people are now my people; I have a great faith in them, a faith things will improve — I don't know how or where; but they say Mr Kissinger is going to visit soon, he could do something, he seems like a good man."

No matter the reasons, whether it be a sense of mission, lack of money or simply no desire to leave this delightful setting, these people live on as reminders of a past age — Their glory has gone, but they continue to eke out a lonesome existence in one of the most attractive settings in the world. They are a dying species, due to be extinct within 15 years but while they remain, along with Reverend White, and an English family in The Anchorage. Empire lives on — at least for some.

David Wright